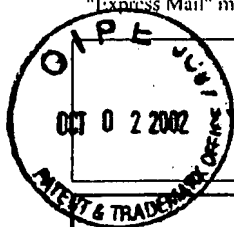


Date of Deposit: October 2, 2002

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL 500980859 US



**CONTINUED PROSECUTION APPLICATION (CPA)
REQUEST TRANSMITTAL**

Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing.
(Only for Continuation or Divisional applications under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d))

CHECK BOX, if applicable:

☒ **DUPLICATE**

Address to:

Commissioner for Patents

Box CPA

Washington, DC 20231

Attorney Docket No.
of Prior Application

6270/26

First Named Inventor

Simon H. Lightbody

Examiner Name

Timothy Edwards

Group/Art Unit.

2635

Express Mail Label No.

EL 500980859 US

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Technology Center 2600

This is a request for a ☒ continuation or ☐ divisional application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), (continued prosecution application (CPA)) of prior application number 09/370,696, filed August 9, 1999, entitled EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS INTERFACE FOR A REVENUE METER.

NOTES

FILING QUALIFICATIONS: The prior application identified above must be a nonprovisional application that is either: (1) complete as defined by 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(b), or (2) the national stage of an international application in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 371.

C-I-P NOT PERMITTED: A continuation-in-part application cannot be filed as a CPA under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), but must be filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b).

EXPRESS ABANDONMENT OF PRIOR APPLICATION: The filing of this CPA is a request to expressly abandon the prior application as of the filing date of the request for a CPA. 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) must be used to file a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part of an application that is not to be abandoned.

ACCESS TO PRIOR APPLICATION: In a CPA, no reference to the prior application is needed in the first sentence of the specification and none should be submitted. If a sentence referencing the prior application is submitted, it will not be entered. A request for a CPA is the specific request required by 35 U.S.C. § 120 and to every application assigned the application number identified in such request, 37 C.F.R. § 1.78(e).

1. ☐ Enter the unentered amendment previously filed on _____ under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 in the prior nonprovisional application.
2. ☒ A preliminary amendment is enclosed.
3. This application is filed by fewer than all the inventors named in the prior application, 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d)(4).
 - a. ☐ **DELETE** the following inventor(s) named in the prior nonprovisional application:

 - b. ☐ The inventor(s) to be deleted are set forth on a separate sheet attached hereto.
4. ☐ A new power of attorney or authorization of agent is enclosed.
5. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is enclosed:
 - a. ☐ PTO-1449
 - b. ☐ Copies of IDS Citations

Match and Return

10/04/2002 AWONDAF1 00000120 09370696

01 FD:131
02 FD:103

740.00 DP
18.00 DP

CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
	TOTAL CLAIMS (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(c))	52-51 =	1	x \$ 18.00	\$18
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(b))	3 - 6 =	0	x \$ 84.00	
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(d))			+ \$ 280.00	
				BASIC FEE (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(a))	740.00
				Total of above Calculations =	
				Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).	
				TOTAL =	\$758

6. Small entity status:

- a. ☐ A small entity statement is enclosed.
- b. ☐ A small entity statement was filed in the prior nonprovisional application and such status is still proper and desired.
- c. ☐ Is no longer claimed.

7. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge the following fees to

Deposit Account No. 23-1925:

- a. ☒ Fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16.
- b. ☐ Fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.
- c. ☐ Fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18.
8. ☒ A check in the amount of \$ 758 is enclosed.
9. ☐ Other: _____

NOTE:

The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this one UNLESS a new correspondence address is provided.

10. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED	
NAME	Vincent J. Gnoffo
SIGNATURE	<i>Vincent J. Gnoffo</i>
Registration No.	44,714
DATE	October 2, 2002

Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, IL 60610



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE